



FIGHTIN' ARMY

BREATHTAKING ACTION STORIES

Fightin'

No 20

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CODE



AUTHORITY

ARMY

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Do You Want **\$50⁰⁰** or **\$100⁰⁰** Extra Money?

\$ HERE'S QUICK EASY WAY TO EARN IT!

Send No Money—Merely Mail Coupon
We Ship You 24 Beautiful Super Size Religious Wall Mottos
ON CREDIT! Friends, Neighbors and Others Buy on Sight!

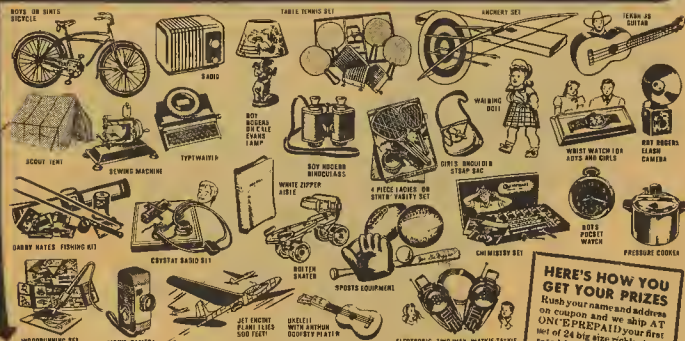
Serve the Lord while you earn extra cash... up to \$50 to \$100! Just mail the coupon below with your name and address—SEND NO MONEY—and the FUNman will ship to you POSTPAID and NO CREDIT 24 extra large richly decorated Religious Wall Mottos. These gorgeous, inspiring mottos sell amazingly fast at just 35¢ each. Your friends, neighbors and other folks buy on sight; many take six or more for every room in the house. Many boys and girls, men and women sell out all 24 mottos in a few hours and make \$2.40 for themselves in a hurry.

HERE'S HOW YOU EARN MONEY FAST

When you have sold all 24 mottos, you will have collected \$8.40 altogether. Merely send \$5.00 to the FUNman in payment for the mottos and keep all the rest of the \$2.40 for yourself. You can probably sell out in a single afternoon... and that means you can make the full \$2.40 profit after school or on a Saturday. If you prefer you can earn exciting prizes like those shown below as you help our Lord crush graft, win, greed and evil thinking... and can welcome extra cash or prizes. Rush Coupon TODAY!



OR YOUR CHOICE OF PRIZES GIVEN



HERE'S HOW YOU GET YOUR PRIZES
 Rush your name and address on coupon and we ship AT ONCE (PREPAID) our first set of 24 big size richly decorated Mottos On 15 Days TRUST. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, send the \$8.40 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. Hurry, send TODAY for 24 Mottos ON TRUST and your PRIZE CATALOG FREE!

FREE Membership in FUNman's Fun Club

EXTRA! Sell mottos and send payment within 15 days, and we'll give you FREE a year's Membership to the FUNman's Fun Club. Membership card, certificate, secret code, giant packet of fun materials all yours—PLUS many extra surprises!

SEND NO MONEY!... We Trust You!

The FUNman, Dept. X-109, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Illinois

The FUNman, Dept. X-109, 5726 N. Broadway, Chicago 40, Ill. FREE BIG PRIZE

Please rush to me on 15 days credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos to sell at 35¢ each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE! I will remit amount required as explained under description of prize in BIG PRIZE CATALOG within 15 days and select the prize I want or keep a cash commission as explained.

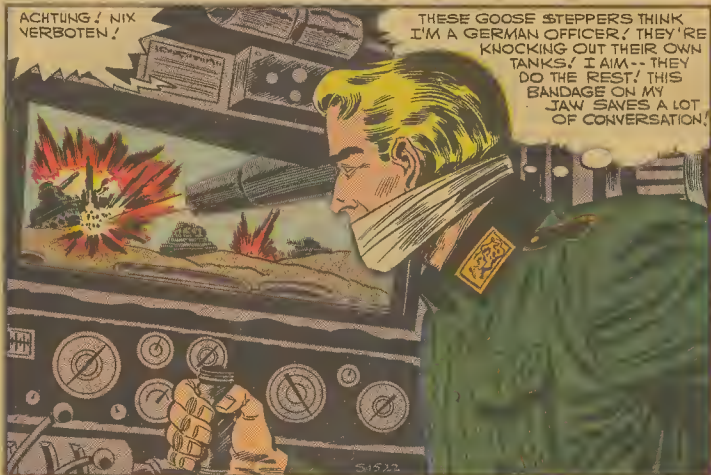
NAME.....AGE.....
 STREET or RFD.....
 TOWN.....Zone.....STATE.....

FIGHTIN' ARMY

OUTFOXING *The* DESERT FOX

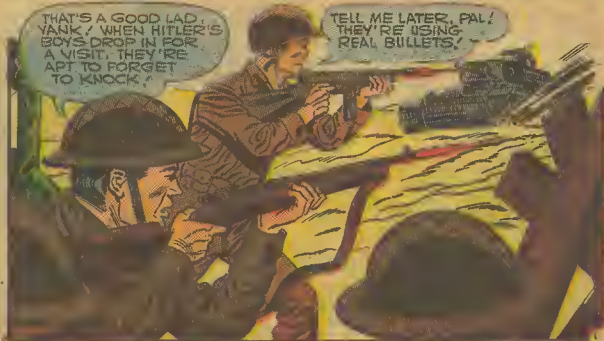
THE FAMOUS ENGLISH EIGHTH ARMY--THE 'DESERT RATS'--FOUGHT A BITTER CAMPAIGN AGAINST GENERAL ROMMEL'S CRACK AFRICA CORPS, EARLY IN 1942. SERGEANT ROY BANKS, U.S. TANK SPECIALIST, JOINED THE BRITISH FOR OBSERVATION PURPOSES... HIS ARMORED DIVISION WAS ON ITS WAY!

ACHTUNG! NIX
VERBOTEN!



THESE GOOSE STEPPERS THINK
I'M A GERMAN OFFICER. THEY'RE
KNOCKING OUT THEIR OWN
TANKS. I AIM-- THEY
DO THE REST. THIS
BANDAGE ON MY
JAW SAVES A LOT
OF CONVERSATION.

SERGEANT
BANKS
SAW
HIS
FIRST
GERMAN
ARMOR
TWO
DAYS
AFTER
LANDING
IN
NORTH
AFRICA!
ROMMEL'S
TANKS
RAIDED
BRITISH
DIVISION
HEAD-
QUARTERS...



THAT'S A GOOD LAD,
YANK! WHEN HITLER'S
BOYS DROP IN FOR
A VISIT, THEY'RE
APT TO FORGET
TO KNOCK.

TELL ME LATER, PAL!
THEY'RE USING
REAL BULLETS.

FIGHTIN' ARMY

ROMMEL'S DARING RAIDS HAD THE ENTIRE FRONT ON EDGE! THE BRITISH TANKS WERE LIGHTER AND NOT AS HEAVILY ARMED...

I'D LIKE TO GET A LOOK INSIDE ONE OF ROMMEL'S TANKS. IT'LL HELP US A LOT WHEN MY OUT-FIT GETS HERE IF I CAN FIND A WEAK SPOT!

THERE'S A DISABLED ONE UP AHEAD! WE'LL HAVE A PEAK INSIDE!



THEY'RE A LITTLE CROWDED IN... OUCH!

THESE TOYS HEAT UP A BIT IN THE DESERT SUN, YANK! AFTER A FEW HOURS IN ONE OF THEM, YOUR GANG WILL BE WELL BAKED!



A UNIT OF LIGHT TANKS WENT ON RECON-NAISSANCE THAT AFTER-NOON. SERGEANT BANKS GOT PERMISSION TO GO ALONG...

HEADS UP, YANK! ROMMEL'S PANZERS UP AHEAD! SPARKS, TELL THE OUTFIT TO BUTTON UP!



'BUTTONED UP'--TURRETS LOCKED, READY FOR COMBAT, THE BRITISH ARMORED COLUMN CHALLENGED THE GERMAN UNIT...



WE SMACKED ONE OF THEM, YANK!

LET'S HOPE NONE OF THEM 'SMACKS' US, LIEUTENANT!



WE'RE HIT!



FIGHTIN' ARMY

UNHURT, BUT STUNNED BY THE BLAST, SERGEANT BANKS FINALLY GOT THE TURRET OPEN. HIS FIRST CONCERN WAS GETTING THE OTHERS OUT...

THE DRIVER IS STILL ALIVE, YANK! HELP HIM IF YOU'RE ABLE!



YOU ARE OUR PRISONER, SERGEANT. PUT THAT MAN DOWN, OUR MEDICS WILL LOOK AFTER YOUR WOUNDED.

RIGHT-- JUST DON'T GET NERVOUS WITH THAT LUGER!



HEY, WHAT'S THE IDEA? HOW COME I DON'T GO WITH THE OTHER PRISONERS?

YOU ARE THE FIRST AMERICAN WE'VE CAPTURED! GENERAL ROMMEL WILL WANT TO SPEAK TO YOU PERSONALLY!



AN HOUR LATER, SGT. BANKS FOUND HIMSELF WITH THE DESERT FOX HIMSELF...

WELL, WHY DO YOU STARE, SERGEANT?

I THOUGHT YOU'D BE TEN FEET HIGH AND EIGHT FEET WIDE FROM THE STORIES I'VE HEARD, GENERAL! YOU'RE NOT SO BIG!



YOU AMERICANS MUST ALWAYS HAVE YOUR JOKE. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY FINE AFRICA CORPS? ARE YOUR ARMORED UNITS AS GOOD?

MAYBE NOT NOW BUT THEY WILL BE! YOU'LL SEE THE DAY WHEN WE CHASE YOU RIGHT BACK TO BERLIN!



THAT CAN NEVER HAPPEN! BUT, SERGEANT, YOU WILL SEE ROMMEL TRAP THE BRITISH ARMOR RIGHT HERE! I'LL DRIVE THEM OUT OF AFRICA!

HOW'S THAT? FROM WHAT I HEAR, YOU'RE OUT OF GASOLINE AND AMMO!



Boys! Girls! Men! Women!

We'll Send You These 2 Boxes of Sensational New First-Time Ideas in **GREETING CARDS**

and Show You How
to Make

\$75 to \$500.00 AND
EVEN MORE

Easily and Quickly
in Your Spare Time

Send No Money—Mail Coupon Below!

If you can use extra cash, here's the easiest, pleasantest way to make it. The exquisite Greeting Cards in the Royal Deluxe 3-in-1 All-Occasion Assortment win friends by the score. An exciting new idea... 3 different popular shapes all in one Assortment! And the HI-LITES Humorous Assortment is simply irresistible. The moment friends and neighbors see these two spectacular, new-idea assortments, they want them. Each Assortment sells for such a low price, you'll take orders right and left, keep up to 50¢ of every \$1.00 you take in.

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Everyone falls in love with these new greeting cards instantly. Let our new-idea Assortments make more money FOR YOU than ever before in spare time. See how wonderfully easy it is to sell greeting cards which say in the modern manner what's in the sender's heart for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Get Well, Baby Births, and many other occasions.

ORGANIZATIONS: Churches, clubs, Veterans' auxiliaries, etc. can add hundreds of dollars to your treasury funds so easily with these fast selling assortments.

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These thrilling new All-Occasion Assortments shown are only 2 of dozens of fast sellers. We'll send details of charming Mandarin Porcelain Assortment, lovely new Golden Photochrome Assortment, gorgeous Gift Wrappings, a variety of beautiful Stationery and Personal Notes, Imported Neckties, Children's Books, a host of Novelty Gift Items—and an exquisite new assortment of Easter Greeting Cards.

Be First! Mail Coupon Today!

See for yourself! Don't send a penny. Mail coupon for the 2 assortments shown here, sent you on approval, all postage paid. We'll include FREE Illustrated Catalog and details of our amazingly simple Money-Making Plan. Mail the coupon TODAY!

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New York 10, N.Y.



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HUMOROUS ASSORTMENT

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Get-Well, Baby Births, Etc. Terrific designs that tickle the funny bone, in new smart TALL shape, delightfully decorated with sequins, glitter, flocking. The gayest and dearest cards ever created.



SEND NO MONEY

Poste Coupon on postcard or mail in envelope

Wallace Brown, Inc., Dept. A-123
11 East 26th St., New York 10, N.Y.

I want to make extra money. Please send me on approval the 2 Greeting Card Assortments shown above, plus FREE Illustrated Catalog and Money-Making Plan.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

If writing for an organization, give its name _____

FIGHTIN' ARMY

TRUE! REGRETTABLY, THE BRITISH NAVY CONTROLS THE MEDITERRANEAN-- SO I WILL HAVE TO USE SUCH SUPPLIES AS THE BRITISH BRING ME, AND THEY HAVE PLENTY! I WILL LET THE BRITISH DRIVE ME BACK HERE...

...BUT MOST OF MY ARMOR WILL BE HIDDEN HERE, AFTER THE ENGLISH BRING UP ALL THEIR SUPPLIES, I WILL STRIKE! THE SUPPLIES WILL BE OURS! THE PLAN BEGINS IMMEDIATELY!

THAT ENDED THE INTERVIEW-- AND SGT. BANKS KNEW THE GREAT STRATEGIST'S PLAN WOULD WORK UNLESS HE WAS STOPPED...

HE IS A GENIUS! MY TANK THERE WILL BE ONE OF THOSE HE MENTIONED!

HE BRAGS A LITTLE TOO MUCH, THOUGH! SUPPOSE I WAS TO GET AWAY...



...LIKE THIS!



A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

NOW I LOOK LIKE A NAZI BUT I CAN'T SPEAK GERMAN! I'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT SOMETHING! AHH, THE FIRST AID KIT!

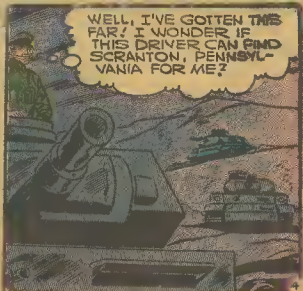


IN SECONDS THE SERGEANT SOLVED HIS PROBLEM...



APPARENTLY, THE CREW HAD BEEN BRIEFED! WITHOUT FURTHER ORDERS FROM THEIR OFFICERS, THE TANK CREW SWUNG THEIR VEHICLE INTO LINE WITH THE OTHERS...

WELL, I'VE GOTTEN THIS FAR! I WONDER IF THIS DRIVER CAN FIND SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA FOR ME?



FIGHTIN' ARMY

THE TANK COLUMN SWUNG OFF THE ROAD AND MOVED INTO A HIDDEN VALLEY DURING THE NIGHT! THE NEXT DAY, SGT. BANKS HEARD THE SOUND OF TANK GUNS NOT FAR AWAY!

WELL, THAT'S ROMMEL'S BOYS FALLING BACK! PRETTY SOON WE'LL GET THE WORD TO CUT THE BRITISH OFF! ABOUT TIME, TOO-- WE'RE OUT OF WATER!



BAM!
BLAM!
POW!

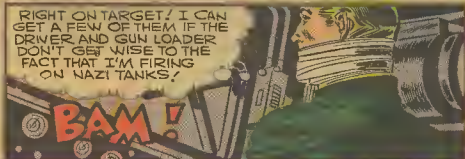
THE ORDERS WERE GIVEN-- SERGEANT BANKS DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THEM BUT HIS CREW DID...



I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM-- ANY DIVERSION AT ALL WILL GIVE THE BRITISH TIME TO COUNTER-ATTACK!



RIGHT ON TARGET! I CAN GET A FEW OF THEM IF THE DRIVER AND GUN LOADER DON'T GET WISE TO THE FACT THAT I'M FIRING ON NAZI TANKS!



THAT'S THREE! AT THIS RATE, I WON'T NEED HELP FROM THE ENGLISH!



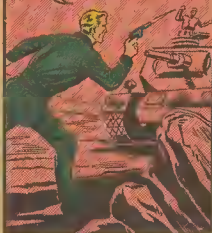
FIGHTIN' ARMY

ROMMEL'S PANZER TANKS HAD BEEN SPOTTED! A MOMENT LATER, FIGHTER PLANES WERE SCREAMING IN...



I'M GONNA DIG A HOLE TO PULL IT IN AFTER ME! JUST HAVING THE GERMAN ARMY AFTER ME WAS BAD ENOUGH-- NOW THE BRITISH AIR FORCE IS MAD, TOO!

THIS IS ONE TIME ROMMEL'S PLANS DIDN'T WORK! THE DESERT RATS ARE IN CONTROL NOW!



STOP! HEY, YANK, IT COULD BE DANGEROUS WEARING A GERMAN UNIFORM AROUND HERE!

THANKS! YOU SURE GOT BACK IN ACTION IN A HURRY!



SO YOU UPSET ROMMEL'S PLANS! YOU'LL GET A MEDAL FOR THAT FROM MY COUNTRY! BY THE WAY, YANK, YOUR OUTFIT GOT IN THIS MORNING!

SO I SEE, I GUESS I'D BETTER RE-PORT, SIR! THANKS FOR EVERYTHING!



LATER, AT DIVISION HEAD-QUARTERS...

WELL DONE, BANKS! I JUST HAD A RE-PORT ON YOUR DOINGS FROM THE BRITISH! DID YOU LEARN ANYTHING? IS THERE ANYTHING OUR TANKS LACK?



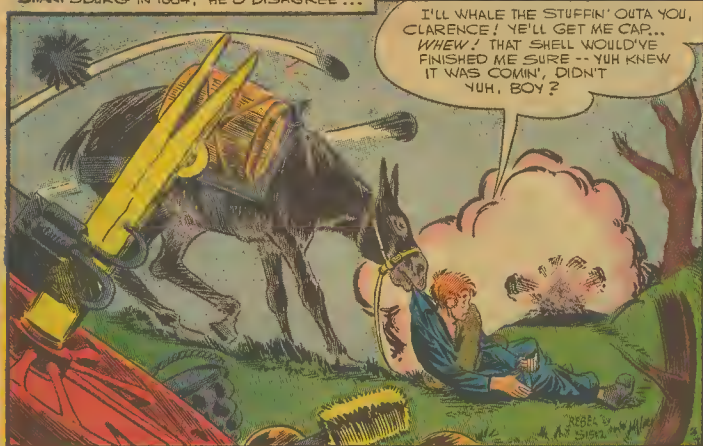
YES, SIR, WATER TANKS! WE'LL NEED A LOT MORE OF THOSE OUT HERE!



END

FIGHTIN' ARMY GAVIN'S STUPID Mule

WHILE THE HORSE GOT ALL THE GLORY--CARRIED THE GENERALS IN THE PARADES, LED THE WILDLY EXCITING CAVALRY CHARGES--THE MULE DID THE DIRTY WORK, TOTING AMMUNITION, SUPPLIES, AND HAULING ARTILLERY! MOST ARMY MULES WERE PRETTY HEPPY... BUT GAVIN'S MULE WAS ONE OF THE MOST IDIOTIC EVER FOALD... IF YOU BELIEVE CAPTAIN GORDON! BUT IF YOU'VE TALKED TO PVT. PAT GARVIN OUTSIDE SHARPSBURG IN 1864, HE'D DISAGREE...



CLARENCE JOINED THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN 1862--THE SAME DAY THAT AN IRISH IMMIGRANT, PATRICK GAVIN WAS SWORN IN...

YOU'RE THE SLOPP-PIEST SOLDIER I'VE EVER SEEN, GAVIN--AND THAT MULE IS THE STUPIDEST! YOU TWO BELONG TOGETHER!

WELL, NOW, CAPTAIN, HE'S A MITE OLD FOR THE WORK, BUT HE'S A HANDSOME ANIMAL! I THINK I'LL CALL HIM CLARENCE!



THAT DID IT! CLARENCE LOVED HIM INSTANTLY...

HE HALF KILLED TWO... DID YOU CALL HIM CLARENCE? YOU CAN'T! THAT'S MY NAME!

AN' A FINE MAN YE ARE, CLARENCE... I MEAN, CAPTAIN!



FIGHTIN' ARMY

GAVIN AND HIS STUPID MULE WAS SOON KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE REGIMENT! THERE WAS THE DAY THEY WERE MARCHING SOUTH OF PHILADELPHIA...

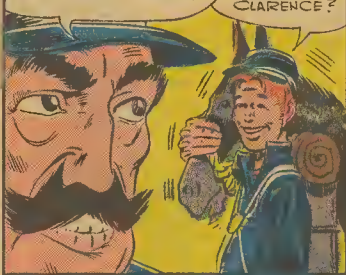
COME ON, CLARENCE! THE OTHER MULES DRINK IT!

I'LL GIVE YOU FIVE SECONDS TO GET THAT MULE WATERED -- IF HE WON'T DRINK, HE'LL GO THIRSTY!



AND DON'T CALL HIM CLARENCE! NOW HE'LL HAVE TO GO WITHOUT WATER UNTIL TONIGHT!

YES, SIR! CLARENCE WON'T MIND. WILL YUH, CLARENCE?



LATER THAT DAY...

YE WERE RIGHT, CLARENCE! THE WATER WAS BAD! THE REST OF THE MULES WILL HAVE STOMACH ACHES FOR A FEW DAYS!



ARMY MULES USUALLY ARE EASILY MANAGED WHEN UNDER FIRE -- BUT CLARENCE ALWAYS HAD HIS OWN IDEAS IN BATTLE...

COME ON, YUH OMADHAUN! THE CAPTAIN NEEDS THE POWDER WE'RE BRINGIN'!



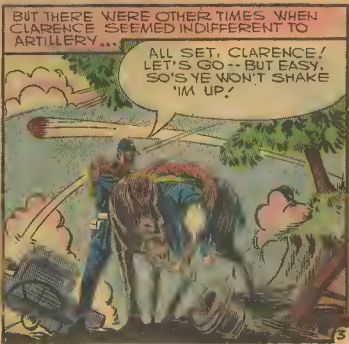
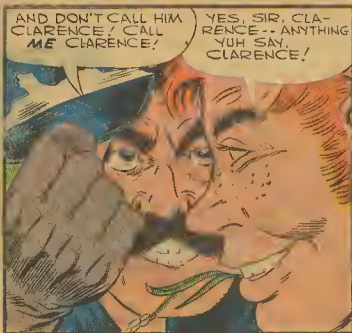
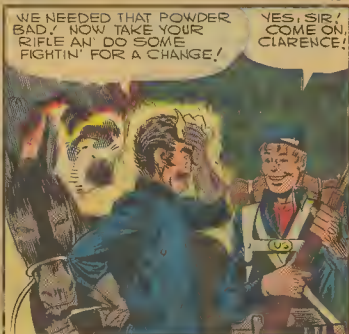
WHAT GOT INTO YE? I'LL PUT YUH ON HALF RATIONS IF YE KEEP THIS UP!



NEVAH MIND THE YANK -- WE NEED THE GUNPOWDER, THE MULE'S CARRIN'!



FIGHTIN' ARMY



FIGHTIN' ARMY

CLARENCE WAS MORE OR LESS THE COMPANY PET! THE OTHER MULES THAT STARTED OUT WITH CLARENCE WERE ALL GONE AFTER TWO YEARS...

HEY, GAVIN-- DON'T GO NEAR MAJOR GORDON'S TENT! THE GENERAL'S THERE!

I DON'T MIND IF CLARENCE DON'T, BILL! HE'S NO SNOB!



WE'LL HAVE TO MOVE ACROSS THIS FIELD-- YOU OCCUPY THIS FARMHOUSE AND PROTECT OUR FLANK, MAJOR!



NOW BE SURE TO... MAJOR WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS ?!



THIS IS THE LAST STRAW, GAVIN! I'LL SEE THAT...

WHOA, MAJOR! THIS MUST BE CLARENCE! I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT GAVIN'S MULE! CAN HE READ MAPS TOO, GAVIN ?

HE MIGHT, GEN'RAL! I CAN'T TELL WHAT HE CAN DO OR CAN'T DO!



THE REGIMENT MASSED FOR AN ATTACK THAT NIGHT-- MAJOR GORDON'S COMPANY HAD TO FIND THE FARMHOUSE IN THE DARK...

THERE'S THE FARMHOUSE AHEAD! I DON'T SEE HOW CLARENCE EVER LED US HERE!

HE SAW THE MAP, REMEMBER, SIR ?



THE CONFEDERATES WERE SUSPICIOUSLY QUIET AS THE UNION SOLDIERS STARTED ACROSS THE FIELDS...

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG! SEARCH THOSE WOODS, GAVIN!

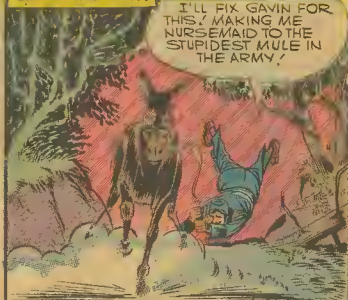
YES, SIR! LOOK AFTER CLARENCE, SIR!



FIGHTIN' ARMY



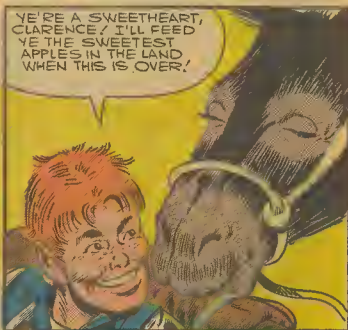
MEANWHILE, MAJOR GORDON HAD TROUBLE ON HIS HANDS...



I'LL FIX GAVIN FOR THIS! MAKING ME NURSEMAID TO THE STUPIDEST MULE IN THE ARMY!



THE YANKS KNOW WE'RE HERE! DON'T LET THAT ONE GET AWAY!



YE'RE A SWEETHEART, CLARENCE! I'LL FEED YE THE SWEETEST APPLES IN THE LAND WHEN THIS IS OVER!



CLARENCE SAVED THE COMPANY AGAIN THAT DAY... AND IT WASN'T LONG AFTER THAT WHEN CORPORAL GAVIN WAS GIVEN A MEDICAL DISCHARGE...

TAKE GOOD CARE OF CLARENCE! IT'S AN HONOR TO HAVE HIM NAMED AFTER ME!

YE BOTH DID A FINE JOB, SIR!



...AND CLARENCE NEVER CHANGED IN THE YEARS HE HAD LEFT...

WHY DON'T YOU USE THE BIG ONE FOR THAT JOB?

NOT CLARENCE-- HE'S TOO SMART TO WORK! HE KIND OF BOSSES THE JOB!

END

100 Toy Soldiers \$1.25



PACKED in this FOOTLOCKER
TOY STORAGE BOX

**100 TOY SOLDIERS, MADE OF DURABLE PLASTIC,
EACH ON ITS OWN BASE, MEASURING UP TO 4 1/2"!!**

- ★ FUN TO SHOW
- ★ FUN TO TRADE
- ★ FUN TO COLLECT



EACH FOOTLOCKER CONTAINS:

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| 4 Tanks | 8 Officers |
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| 4 Cruisers | 4 Bambers |
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| 8 Machinegunners | 8 Cannon |
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| 4 Infantrymen | 4 Marksmen |

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**NO
C.O.D.'s**

HERE'S MY \$1.25 !

Rush the TOY SOLDIERS TO ME!

Name

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**Canada and foreign orders send \$1.50 postal
money order.**

THE MISSING GATLINGS

The Battle of the Little Bighorn River, on June 25-26, 1876, was one of the last important instances of violent resistance by the American Indians to the advance of white settlements. This fight was the principal one in the war whereby the Northern Cheyenne and several tribes of Sioux, described as hostile, were subdued.

This battle consisted of two entirely separate actions. The first, in the valley, was fought under the leadership of Major Reno. His troops retreated before an overwhelming number of Indians and took refuge on the bluffs across the river where they were joined by Captain Benteen's force. They defended themselves until the foe withdrew. In the other action, fought nearly five miles away, five troops of the Seventh Cavalry under Custer's personal command were overwhelmed by the savage fury of the attacking Indians. This has often been called "Custer's Last Battle."

The immediate cause of the campaign of 1876 was the U.S. Government's order of December 3, 1875, directing that all Sioux be notified "that unless they shall remove within the bounds of their reservations (and remain there) before the 31st. of January next, they shall be deemed hostile and treated accordingly by the military force." It was practically impossible for the Indians to comply with this order because of the limited time allowed and the extreme winter weather at that time. Inasmuch as the Indians failed to comply, on February 7, 1876, the Secretary of the Interior and the General of the Army, gave Lt. Gen. P. H. Sheridan authority to commence operations against the hostile Indians.

The plan of this campaign was to march into the hostile Indian territory with three separate expeditions from different positions. In the spring of 1876, a military force under the command of Brig. Gen. George Crook moved northwest from Fort Fetterman, Wyo. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, Commander, Department of the Dakota, and in charge of the operations to the north, organized two separate columns. Gen. John Gibbon, with a force of cavalry from Fort Ellis, Mont., and infantry from Fort Shaw, Mont., started in April. He moved slowly east down the Yellowstone River.

General Terry started from Fort Abraham Lincoln, Dakota Territory, on May 17, 1876. He had two companies of the Seventeenth United States Infantry, one company of the Sixth United States Infantry, and the entire Seventh United States Cavalry, numbering in all about 925 men. Gen. George A. Custer and his Seventh United States Cavalry headed the column as it left the fort at the beginning of the westward march.

Slowly this column made its way to the mouth of the Powder River on the Yellowstone. Here a base of supply was established and left under guard of the infantry troops. All wagons were abandoned, and from there the supplies were carried by pack mule. The Seventh Cavalry continued up the Yellowstone arriving at the mouth of the Rosebud Creek about noon on June 21st.

The steamer FAR WEST, loaded with supplies was at the Rosebud. General Terry used the boat for his headquarters and also as a means of keeping in contact with both columns. A meeting was held and plans were made. General Gibbon's troops were to go back up the Yellowstone, cross to its south side, and march up the Bighorn River and then up the Little Bighorn River. The steamer FAR WEST would follow these streams as far as it could go. General Custer would lead his Seventh Cavalry up Rosebud Creek, and would follow a broad Indian trail reported by Major Marcus A. Reno and his scouting troops. The objective was to get the Indians between the two forces and compel them to fight.

Custer's men spent the morning of June 22nd. preparing for departure. The pack mules were laden with boxes of ammunition, food rations for 15 days, principally hard bread, coffee, sugar, and bacon. At Custer's suggestion, an extra supply of salt was packed in the event through necessity, they should be compelled to live on horse meat. Each man was supplied with 100 rounds of carbine ammunition and 24 rounds of pistol ammunition to be carried on his person and in his saddle bags. He was also to carry twelve pounds of oats on his horse.

The first 1876 clash between Indian warriors and soldiers was on March 17th. Early that morn-

ing about half of General Crook's forces, under Colonel Reynold, attacked a Northern Cheyenne Camp on the west side of Powder River. The Indians fled while the soldiers burned the vacated tepees.

During the Spring a number of tribes moved about in the region south of the Yellowstone River and between Powder River and Rosebud Creek. At times they drifted together, but in doing so they found the encampment became so large that difficulties were experienced in obtaining a supply of food. Also the enormous pony herds cropped off the grass too quickly. Small groups of Indians kept in contact with their reservations, obtaining what supplies they could from reservation Indians. With the coming of warm weather, other agency Indians joined the wandering tribes.

On June 17th., General Crook's troops attacked a combined body of Sioux and Cheyenne, this time on the upper Rosebud Creek. He was forced to retreat to his base in Wyoming and the Indians then moved toward the Little Bighorn River.

It is often difficult to establish exact numbers of Indians involved in different engagements. Estimates of the number in this concentration which was an unusually large one, vary greatly. It may have been included between 12,000 and 15,000 Indians, probably as many as 5,000 being warriors. Although there were scattered bands from other tribes, and quite a few Northern Cheyenne under Chiefs Two Moon and White Bull the most were Teton Sioux.

General Custer had started up on the Rosebud Creek with about 600 soldiers, 44 Indian Scouts, and 20 or more packers, guides, and civilians. They moved cautiously along the creek, crossing it several times as they sought the most advantageous marching and camping grounds. The afternoon of the third day, June 24th., the scouts reported that the Indian trail they were following turned abruptly to the right and went westward toward the Little Bighorn Valley.

They were then only about 8 miles from where the Indians had defeated Crook's force on June 17th. But having received no communications from General Crook, they had no knowledge of the battle. After darkness set in and the men and horses had rested, Custer broke camp and continued to follow the trail. During the night the cavalrymen moved several miles nearer the high divide between the Little Bighorn and Rosebud Valleys.

At daybreak, from a high point on the divide, the scouts observed smoke in the Little Bighorn Valley, implying that the Indians were encamped there. About noon on June 25th., Custer divided his command into three battalions. One under the command of Major Marcus A. Reno, one under the command of Captain Frederick W. Benteen, and one under his own command. Benteen was sent immediately to the left of the trail while Custer and Reno followed on opposite banks of a small creek toward Little Bighorn Valley.

They separated. At about 2:30, Major Reno crossed the Little Bighorn River to its west side and advanced down the valley towards the Indian camps. The Indian warriors swarmed into the open view as soon as Reno and his men rode down the valley. A defensive stand was made here until Reno ordered his men to mount and retreat to the bluffs. The retreat became a panicky flight with every man for himself. Few Indians followed them beyond the river.

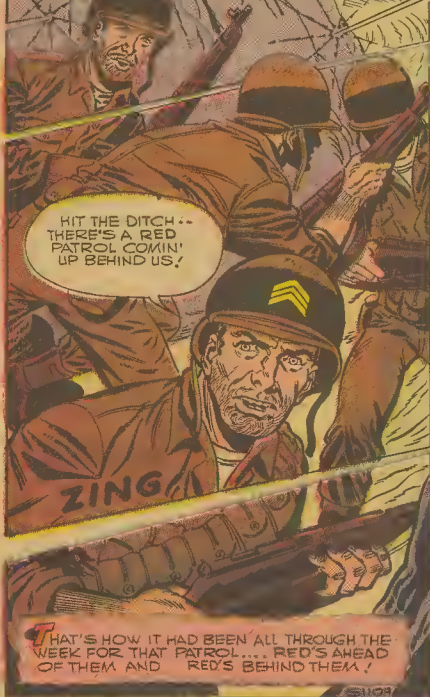
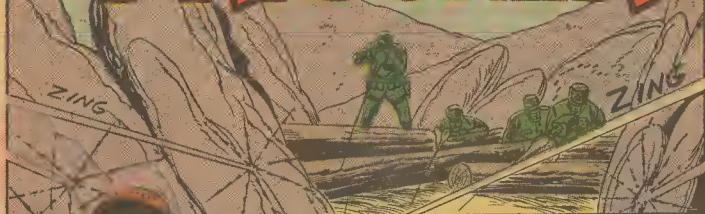
Much has been written about the Custer phase of the battle, but very few facts can be definitely stated. The attack against Reno's troops had eased off and the mass of Indians started after the Custer column. There were only about 225 cavalrymen against warriors numbering possibly up to 5,000. This was more than the small body of troopers could withstand. Custer and his men fought one of the bloodiest battles with the Indians in the annals of American history. The only accounts of the battle have come from the Indians since there were no surviving whites. But there is one strange true fact that might have turned the tide of battle the other way.

General Custer might have had with him four of the 90 pound Gatlings having a rate of fire of 1,000 rounds per minute! These perfected weapons were designed especially for animal transportation. They could be fired from horseback or from the ground on a tripod mounting. They were chambered for the Army standard caliber .45-70-405 infantry center fire rifle cartridge. General Custer refused to take these guns with him because he felt the ground might be so rough that he would be delayed.

Had it been otherwise, then Lieutenants Low and Kenzie in charge of those guns would have surely changed the tide of battle and Custer and his men would have lived.

THE END

The PRISONER



HIT THE DITCH--
THERE'S A RED
PATROL COMIN'
UP BEHIND US!

SHOULD
WE START
THROWIN'
LEAD,
SARGE?

NO, WE'RE TOO
SHORT ON AMMO,
AND A FIRE-FIGHT
MIGHT ALERT
THE ROADBLOCK
UP AHEAD!



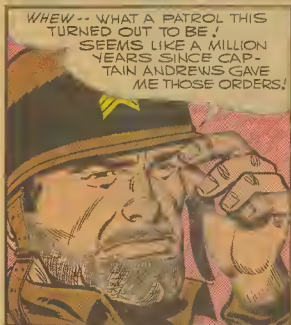
HE'S SMILING
AGAIN! I'M
GONNA GET
YOU BEFORE
YOUR BUDDIES
EVER...

HOLD IT,
TEX! THIS
IS THE U.S.
ARMY--WE
DON'T KILL
PRISONERS!

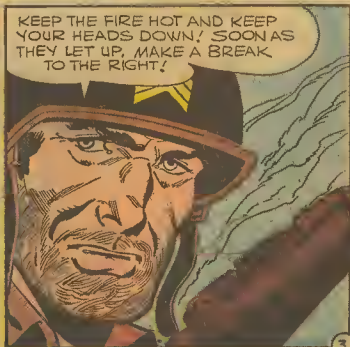
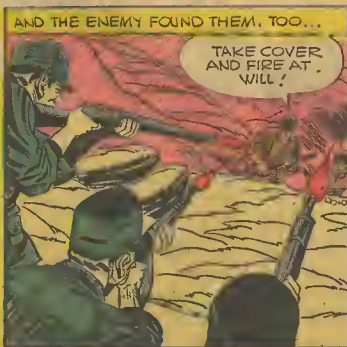
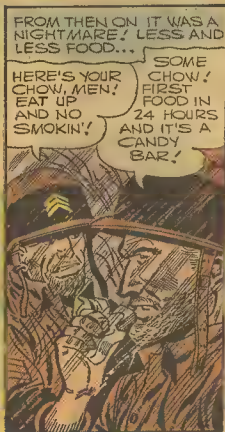


THAT'S HOW IT HAD BEEN ALL THROUGH THE
WEEK FOR THAT PATROL.... RED'S AHEAD
OF THEM AND RED'S BEHIND THEM!

FIGHTIN' ARMY



FIGHTIN' ARMY



FIGHTIN' ARMY

LATER...

ALL RIGHT, WE'RE ALL HERE
AND WE LOST THEM.
REST AWHILE!



YOU ROTTEN RED! I'LL
GET YOU NOW! THE WORSE
IT GETS THE MORE
YOU SMILE!



I WARNED YOU BEFORE,
TEX! WE DON'T KILL
PRISONERS! TRY
THAT AGAIN AND
YOU'RE IN TROUBLE!



YOU'RE A FOOL, SARGE!
WHY NOT? WE'RE
SHORT ON FOOD
AND WE COULD
MOVE FASTER
WITHOUT HIM!



DON'T MAKE ME SAY
IT AGAIN, TEX! WE'RE
IN THE U.S. ARMY--
THAT'S WHY!



WE'RE WITH
YOU, SARGE!



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FIGHTIN' ARMY

SECOND WEEK OUT NOW!
HARDLY ANY AMMO LEFT, ALL
TIRED, DIRTY AND HUNGRY!
SUDDENLY...

HIT THE
DITCH! WE'RE
CUT OFF AHEAD
AND BEHIND!



WE'RE BOXED IN NOW!
THEY'RE GONNA STAY BEHIND
US AND WE CAN'T MOVE
WITHOUT BEING SPOTTED!



SERGEANT SIR! ME SPEAK AMERICAN!
ME HELP NOW BECAUSE YOU NO KILL! ME
SMILE ALL THE TIME NOT TO SHOW
ME AFRAID! ME SOUTH KOREAN!



WHAT WERE
YOU DOING
IN ONE
OF THEIR
UNIFORMS?

THEY MAKE
ME JOIN
UP... TELL
ME YOUR
ARMY KILL
ME! BUT YOU
SAVE ME! I
TALK TO SQUAD.
I SAVE YOU,
PLEASE!



DON'T BE-
LIEVE HIM,
SARGE!
HE'LL
TURN US
OVER!

MAYBE SO..
TEX! BUT I
HAVE TO
TRUST HIM!
OKAY, GET
MOVING!



SURE HOPE HE'S
ON THE LEVEL!



FIGHTIN' ARMY



The BEAUT

WHAT'RE WE GOING TO DO WITH THIS BEAUT, SIR? HE'S UNDERSIZED, UNDERWEIGHT, NEAR-SIGHTED, AND HAS TWO LEFT FEET!

ASSIGN HIM TO THE GERMAN ARMY! THEN WE'RE SURE TO WIN, SIR!



LET'S SEE NOW--WHAT DID THE SAD SACK DO IN CIVILIAN LIFE? HMM... HE DESIGNED STAGE SETS!

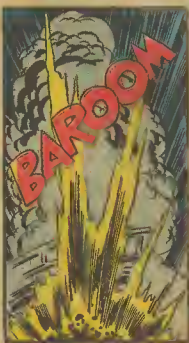


TWO YEARS LATER, NOT FAR FROM THE NORMAN-BY BEACHHEAD...

OUR INTELLIGENCE HAS REPORTED A BRIDGE THAT IS THE MOST VITAL LINK IN THE ALLIED SUPPLY ROUTE!



AHH-- THERE'S THE BRIDGE NOW!



THE MISSION HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED!

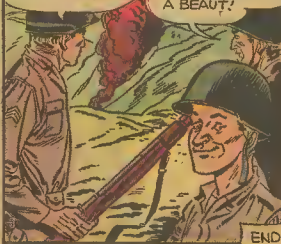
WUNDER-BAHR... NOW OUR TROOPS CAN BE DEPLOYED IN ANOTHER SECTOR!



AT THAT MOMENT...

WHOEVER CLASSIFIED YOU AS A CAMOUFLAGE TECHNICIAN, DESERVES A MEDAL!

THAT FAKE BRIDGE OF YOURS THAT THE NAZIS BLEW UP, SURE WAS A BEAUT!



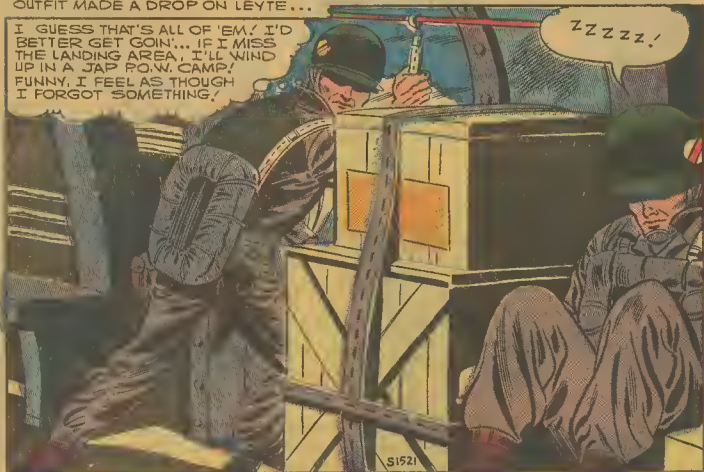
FIGHTIN' ARMY

KELLY'S PRIVATE WAR

CORPORAL JOE KELLY, USUALLY KNOWN AS PRIVATE KELLY EXCEPT WHEN HE WAS ON GOOD BEHAVIOR FOR A FEW MONTHS, WAS A GOOD SOLDIER WHEN HE PUT HIS MIND TO IT. BUT JOE DID THINGS HIS OWN WAY, IN HIS OWN TIME--AND KELLY'S SCHEDULE OFTEN DIDN'T JIBE WITH THE ARMY'S. LIKE THE TIME HIS PARATROOP OUTFIT MADE A DROP ON LEYTE...

I GUESS THAT'S ALL OF 'EM. I'D BETTER GET GOIN'... IF I MISS THE LANDING AREA, I'LL WIND UP IN A JAP P.O.W. CAMP. FUNNY, I FEEL AS THOUGH I FORGOT SOMETHING.

ZZZZZ!



51521

HE DID--CORPORAL KELLY, THE SLEEPING KELLY DIDN'T WAKE UP UNTIL AN AIRMAN NUGGED HIM...

WHA... I MUST'VE DOZED OFF. HEY, WHERE'S THE OTHERS?

FIGHTIN' JAPS DOWN BELOW. YOU'D BE BETTER OFF THERE WHEN THEY FIND OUT YOU GOOFED BACK AT THE FIELD.



I'M NOT GOIN' BACK THERE! IT'S MY JOB TO GET THIS BOX DOWN AND I'M DOING IT!



FIGHTIN' ARMY

THE REST OF THE OUTFIT WAS MILES BACK, AND JOE COUNTED ON LUCK TO ENABLE HIM TO JOIN THEM -- LOTS OF LUCK...

I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO SMASH UP THAT STUFF BEFORE THE NIPS GET IT!



OH, OH! COMPANY ALREADY!



I HEARD THESE BOYS AREN'T VERY ACCURATE-- AND I HEARD RIGHT!



THAT'S ALL I CAN SEE! GUESS I'D BETTER BURY THIS BOY!



THIS WOOD IS TOUGH TO... HEY! WHERE'D YOU GUYS COME FROM? I DIDN'T HEAR YOU!

WE LEARN TO BE QUIET EVADING JAPANESE PATROLS! NOW WE HELP YOU AMERICANS, NO? TELL US HOW TO FIGHT!



FIGHTIN' ARMY

JUST A... SURE, WHY NOT? I'VE GOT TWENTY-FIVE GUNS HERE! HAVE YOU GOT TWENTY-FIVE MEN TO USE THEM?

SURE! UP TO NOW, MOST OF US FIGHT JAPS WITH BARE HANDS!

SO AWOL KELLY FOUND HIMSELF WITH A PRIVATE ARMY... AND PLENTY OF JAPS AT HAND...

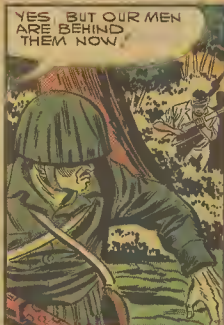
NO! WAIT... THEN WE GET THEM ALL!

HOW? THEY'LL RUN FOR IT AT THE FIRST SHOT!



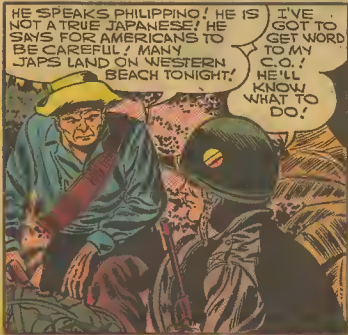
FIRE! THEY SPOTTED US!

YES BUT OUR MEN ARE BEHIND THEM NOW!



HE SPEAKS PHILIPPINO! HE IS NOT A TRUE JAPANESE! HE SAYS FOR AMERICANS TO BE CAREFUL! MANY JAPS LAND ON WESTERN BEACH TONIGHT!

I'VE GOT TO GET WORD TO MY C.O.! HE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO!



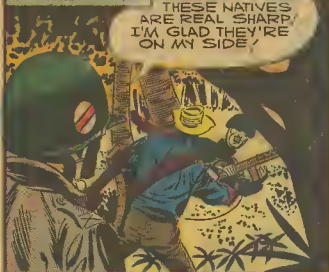
FIND THE 11th AIRBORNE COMMAND POST AND TELL THE COLONEL! I'LL TAKE THE REST OF THE BOYS DOWN TO THE BEACH AND SEE WHAT WE CAN DO!



FIGHTIN' ARMY

THE PHILIPPINOS LED KELLY THROUGH THE DENSE UNDERBRUSH... ONLY A FEW UNFORTUNATE JAPS WERE MET ON THE WAY...

THESE NATIVES ARE REAL SHARP. I'M GLAD THEY'RE ON MY SIDE!

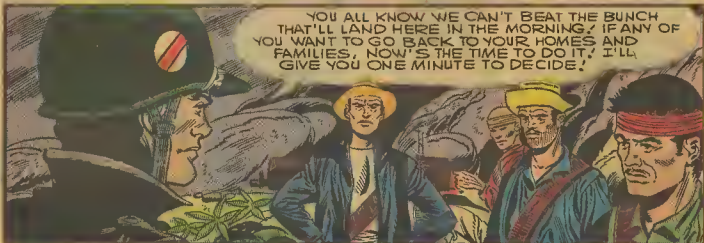


SEE, SIR? THERE ARE MANY JAPANESE SHIPS. THEY ARE WAITING FOR DAYLIGHT TO LAND TROOPS.

TELL THE MEN I WANT TO TALK TO THEM.



YOU ALL KNOW WE CAN'T BEAT THE BUNCH THAT'LL LAND HERE IN THE MORNING. IF ANY OF YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO YOUR HOMES AND FAMILIES, NOW'S THE TIME TO DO IT. I'LL GIVE YOU ONE MINUTE TO DECIDE!

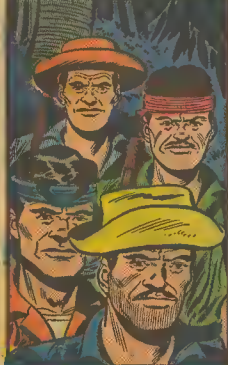


A MINUTE PASSED. A MINUTE THAT SEEMED LIKE A YEAR...

GOOD ENOUGH! I'M GOING TO SET THIS MACHINE GUN UP AT THE EDGE OF THE BEACH. THE REST OF YOU SPREAD OUT!



THE SUN WAS COMING UP WHEN THE JAP LANDING BARGES HIT THE BEACH! THEY OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T EXPECT A FIGHT...



FIGHTIN' ARMY

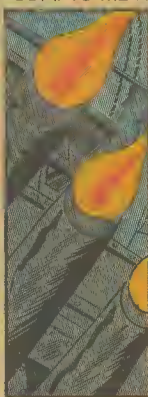
KELLY WAITED... HIS MACHINE GUN COCKED AND READY! THEN, WHEN THE JAPS WERE BUNCHED, HE GAVE THE SIGNAL...



THERE'S LOTS MORE, I RECKON! I'M RUNNIN' LOW ON AMMO BUT I'M HAVIN' A PICNIC WHILE IT LASTS.



THEN THE HEAVY CRUISER OFFSHORE GOT INTO THE ACT...



WELL, IT WON'T LAST MUCH LONGER WITH THAT JOKER OUT THERE THROWIN' IN THE HEAVY STUFF!



BUT JOE'S MESSENGER GOT THROUGH, AND THE AIR FORCE APPEARED JUST IN TIME...



LATER, AFTER JOE'S COMMANDING OFFICER HAD DIRECTED THE MOPPING UP OPERATION...

YOU'LL PROBABLY GET DECORATED FOR THIS, KELLY-- BUT I'LL SEE TO IT THAT YOU DON'T GOOF OFF AGAIN, PRIVATE!!

WELL, MY PRIVATE ARMY DOESN'T CARE ABOUT THINGS LIKE STRIPES ANYHOW, THEY JUST LIKE TO FIGHT JAPS-- AND SO DO I!



END

BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!

GIVEN! GIVEN!

YES WE GIVE YOU

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SLEEPY PETE

THAT'S HOW HE HAD EARNED THE NICK-NAME OF SLEEPY PETE / BUT NOW THE DAYS OF NICKNAMES AND BARRACK JOKES WERE A MILLION YEARS BEHIND HIM ...



HE'D BEEN FIGHTING OFF SLEEP ALL THIS TIME-- BUT NOW...



SO WHEN THIS JERRY JUMPED INTO THE FOX-HOLE...



ACH-- HE IS DEAD! ONLY A DEAD MAN WOULD NOT STIR AT SUCH A SHAKING!



AND SO, TWO DAYS LATER, WHEN THE NAZIS BEGAN TO ASSEMBLE FOR A SURPRISE ATTACK...



IT WAS BETWEEN YAWNS THAT SLEEPY PETE CALLED IN WHAT HE SAW! BUT AFTER THE NAZIS HAD BEEN STOPPED DEAD IN THEIR TRACKS, AND THE BIG BRASS GOT AROUND TO AWARDED HIM A MEDAL, SLEEPY PETE WAS WIDE-AWAKE AGAIN-- UNTIL THE NEXT TIME!



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Alfred P. Fago Executive Editor

FIGHTIN' ARMY MAP READING

YOU'D BETTER GIVE THIS MAP
READING DEAL A FAST RUN
THROUGH, FOLKS...SOMEDAY
IT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE!



AERIAL VIEW	STANDARD MAP SYMBOLS	
		HILLS OR MOUNTAIN GOOD ROAD
		WOODS
		MARSH POND STREAM
		HOUSES ORCHARD
		POWER LINES TTT POOR ROAD RAILROAD
		HOSPITAL CHURCH CEMETERY SCHOOL
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		STONE WALL TRAIL
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Joe Louis



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Win new popularity. Guaranteed to add solid inches to your chest. Easy . . . At Home . . . In less than 15 minutes a day!

Ed



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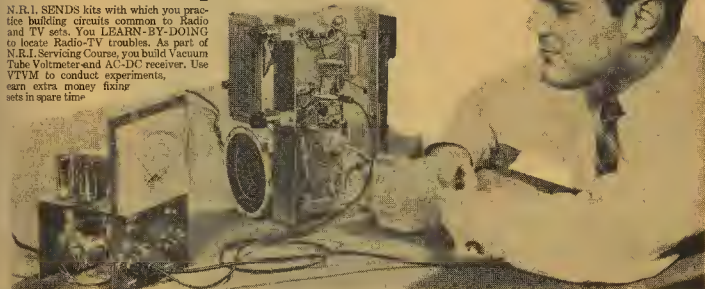
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